

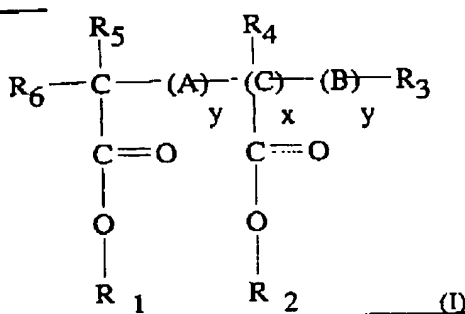
Appl. No. 10/687,845
 Docket No. CM2526C
 Amdt. dated July 24, 2006
 Reply to Office Action mailed on June 28, 2006
 Customer No. 27752

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Currently Amended) A hygienic article ~~containing~~ comprising a composition ~~according to claim 1~~ comprising a cooling agent together with an ester derivative of the following formula:

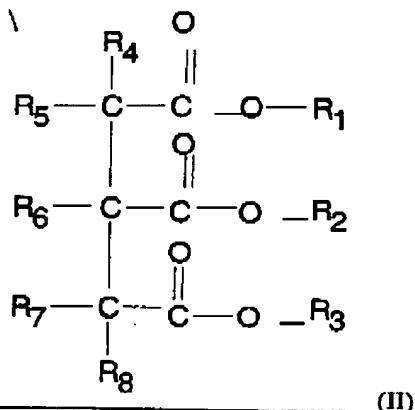


wherein R₁ and R₂ are independently an alkyl, alkenyl, arylalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxy groups of from about 2 to about 24 carbon atoms, hydroxy group or hydrogen group; R₃, R₄, R₅, and R₆ are independently an alkyl, alkenyl, arylalkyl,

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hydroxyalkyl, alkoxy groups of from about 1 to about 24 carbon atoms, hydroxy group or hydrogen group; A and B are independently a C₁-C₆ linear or branched alkylene, alkyl, alkenylene, alkoxy, hydroxyalkylene, hydroxyalkyl groups; the values of x are independently from 0 to about 15; the values of y are independently 0 or 1.

or



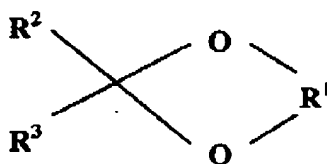
wherein R₁, R₂ and R₃ are independently an acyl, alkyl or alkenyl or hydroxyalkyl group with from about 1 to about 22 carbon atoms, and R₄, R₅, R₆, R₇ and R₈ are independently selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₁₀ linear or branched alkyl, acyl, alkenyl, hydroxyalkyl or alkoxy groups, hydroxy, chloride, bromide, amine or hydrogen, or mixture thereof.

11. (Currently Amended) The A hygienic article according to claim [[9]]10, wherein the said hygienic article is a clothing, bandage, thermal pad, acne pad, cold pad, compress, surgical pad/dressing, protective bedding cover, gloves, socks, perspiration pad, shoe insole, shirt insert, animal litter, panty liner, feminine napkin, incontinent pad, diaper, tampon, interlabial pad, breast pad, dry or wet wipe or human or animal waste management device.
12. (Currently Amended) A hygienic article according to Claim 10, wherein said hygienic article is a disposable absorbent article, wherein the said hygienic article comprises a topsheet containing the composition according to claim 10.

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13. (new) The hygienic article according to Claim 10, wherein the cooling agent is able to convey a freshness sensation, without the need to modify temperature of the skin/mucosal surface of the mammal body to which the composition is applied.
14. (new) The hygienic article according to claim 13, wherein the cooling agent is selected from the group consisting of ketals, carboxamides, cyclohexyl derivatives, cyclohexanol derivatives, borneol, camphor, eucalyptol, methyl salicylate, tea tree oil, eucalyptus oil, peppermint oil and mixtures thereof.
15. (new) The hygienic article according to claim 13, wherein the cooling agent is selected from the group consisting of:

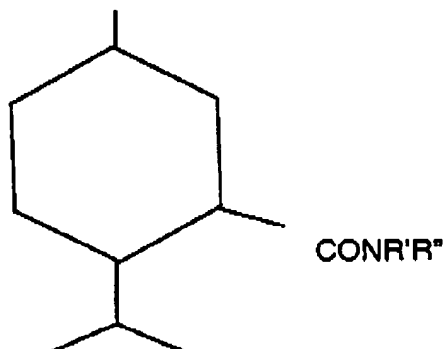
- a ketal according to the following formula:



in which R¹ represents a C₂-C₆-alkylene radical having at least 1, but not more than 3, hydroxyl group(s), preferably 1 hydroxyl group, and either R² and R³ independently of one another represent C₁-C₁₀-alkyl which is optionally substituted by 1 to 3 radicals selected from the group comprising hydroxyl, amino and halogen (such as fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine), C₃-C₇-cycloalkyl, preferably cyclohexyl, C₆-C₁₂-aryl, preferably phenyl, with the proviso that the total of the C atoms of R² and R³ is not less than 3, or R² and R³ together represent an alkylene radical which, together with the carbon atom which carries the radicals R² and R³, forms a 5-7-membered ring, it being possible for this alkylene radical, in turn, to be substituted by C₁-C₆-alkyl groups, or mixtures thereof;

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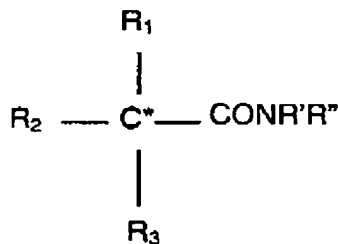
- or a carboxamide of the following formula:



(a)

wherein R' , when taken separately, is hydrogen or an aliphatic radical containing up to about 25 carbon atoms; R'' when taken separately is hydroxy, or an aliphatic radical containing up to about 25 carbon atoms, with the proviso that when R' is hydrogen R'' may also be an aryl radical of up to about 10 carbon atoms and selected from the group consisting of substituted phenyl, phenalkyl or substituted phenalkyl, naphthyl and substituted naphthyl, pyridyl; and R' and R'' , when taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, represent a cyclic or heterocyclic group of up to about 25 carbon atoms, or mixtures thereof,

or (b)

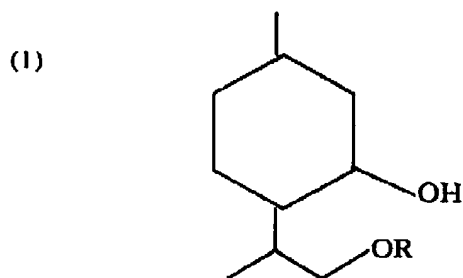


wherein R' and R'' , when taken separately, are each hydrogen, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_5$ alkyl or $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_8$ hydroxyalkyl and provide a total of no more than about 8 carbon atoms, with the proviso that when R' is hydrogen R'' may also be alkylcarboxyalkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms; R' and R'' , when taken together, represent an alkylene group of up to

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about 6 carbon atoms, the opposite ends of which group are attached to the amide nitrogen atom thereby to form a nitrogen heterocycle, the carbon chain of which may optionally be interrupted by oxygen; R_1 is hydrogen or C_1 - C_5 alkyl; and R_2 and R_3 are each C_1 - C_5 alkyl; with the provisos that (i) R_1 , R_2 and R_3 together provide a total of at least 5 carbon atoms, preferably from about 5-10 carbon atoms; and (ii) when R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is C_2 - C_5 alkyl and R_3 is C_3 - C_5 alkyl and at least one of R_2 and R_3 is branched, preferably in an alpha or beta position relative to the carbon atom marked (*) in the formula, or a mixture thereof;

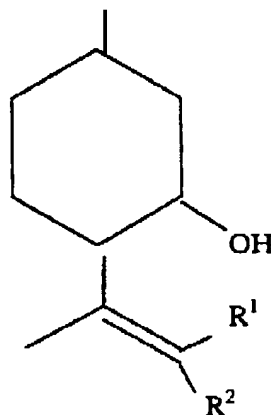
- or a cyclohexanol derivative according to the following general formula:



wherein R represents a linear or branched alkyl group having about 1 to about 5 carbon atoms, or mixtures thereof,

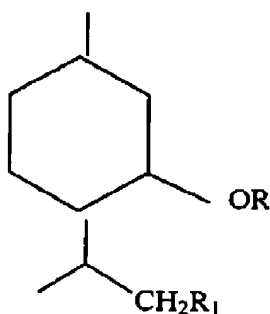
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or (2)



wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently hydrogen, or a linear or branched alkyl group having about 1 to about 5 carbon atom, or mixtures thereof;

- or a cyclohexyl derivative according to the following general formula

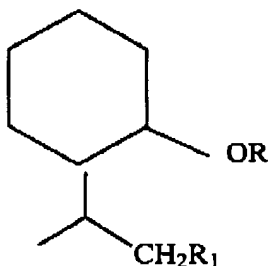


wherein R represents $-H$, a C_1 - C_5 linear or branched alkyl group, a C_1 - C_5 alkenyl group, a C_1 - C_5 alkoxy group or a C_1 - C_5 acyloxy group, R_1 represents $-H$, or a linear or branched alkyl group having from about 1 to about 5 carbon atoms, or mixtures thereof;

- or a mixture thereof.

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16. (new) The hygienic article according to claim 13, wherein the cooling agent is (a) menthol and/or peppermint oil in combination with (b) a second cooling agent typically selected from the group consisting of ketals, carboxamides, cyclohexyl derivatives with the exception of menthol, cyclohexanol derivatives and mixtures thereof.
17. (new) The hygienic article according to claim 16, wherein the second cooling agent is a cyclohexyl derivative according to following formula:



wherein R represents -H, a C_1 - C_5 linear or branched alkyl group, a C_1 - C_5 alkenyl group, a C_1 - C_5 alkoxy group or a C_1 - C_5 acyloxy group, R_1 represents -H, or a linear or branched alkyl group having from about 1 to about 5 carbon atoms, with the exception of R and R_1 both being hydrogen, or mixtures thereof, and preferably is menthyl lactate, typically in a weight ratio of (a) to (b) from 1/1 to 1/100.

18. (new) The hygienic article according to claim 10, wherein the ester derivative is according to formulae (II) and preferably is triethyl citrate, acetyl tributyl citrate and/or triacetyl citrate.
19. (new) The hygienic article according to claim 10, wherein the cooling agent or a mixture thereof is present at a level of about 0.1% to about 99.9% and wherein the ester derivative or a mixture thereof is present at a level of from 99.9% to 0.1%, by weight of the total composition.
20. (new) The hygienic article according to claim 10, wherein said composition is suitable for topical application to the external surface of a mammal in the form of a cream, lotion, emulsion, dispersion, gel, foam, oil, ointment or powder.